

New field for rugby club

By FRANCIS KING
Sports Editor

A meeting last week with Town officials has resolved, at least for the time being, the Markham Rugby Club (MRC's) complaints over poor field conditions.

MRC President Chris Van Straten and Past President Dave Harris met for an hour with Markham Village Recreation

MRC has a tough time

The prospect of a new field to play on might help the Markham Rugby Club win a few more games, because it's having a lot of bad luck lately.

Injuries were the big problem as the team dropped both a 14-7 summer league decision to the Toronto Scottish, and a 15-13 contest to Brampton in first-round McCormick Cup action.

Not only was Mike Foster on the limp (see story above), but veterans Scott Bowers and Andy Wendorf also had to watch the proceedings from the sidelines.

In the Scottish loss, newcomer John Paul had the lone four-point try and Bill Quinn booted a three-point penalty kick.

In the Brampton game Markham played a lot of catch-up rugby, gaining a 9-9 draw by halftime. John Watt scored the try and Bill Quinn booted a penalty kick and a two-point conversion.

Luck went against MRC in the second half, as it had to play two men short because the referee would not allow substitutions for injuries.

But the team still managed to score once more, with Paul grabbing an inside pass from Watt and earning a four-pointer. What ended up making the difference was a controversial Brampton conversion kick.

MRC players argued the kick went three feet wide, but the referee disagreed and awarded Brampton two points.

The big game with Tabard takes place at Centennial Park 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7. Markham Mayor Carole Bell will handle the official kickoff and everyone is welcome to attend. Tabard also takes on the TRU reps Aug. 11 at Centennial.

Area Manager Kerry Gilmor and Program Co-ordinator Martha Wood.

Van Straten went in with MRC's long-standing concern about the over-used Markham District High School (MDHS) front field.

That pitch is ripped up in several places and MRC has been trying unsuccessfully for several years to either have the Town repair it, or find another field to play rugby on.

Recently, the club launched a publicity campaign through the media, and that seemed to help. Van Straten and Harris came out of the meeting with a promise for new game facilities, and a commitment from the Town to examine other areas for MRC to practise on.

The meeting was fairly positive, said Van Straten, a former MDHS teacher. "We understand their (Gilmor and Wood's) problems; they have lots and lots of groups to schedule."

Come this fall, MRC will be able to play on the newly re-opened MDHS south field. That pitch has been closed for a year to allow the Town and nature to affect repairs on the ripped-up surface.

As well, exhibition games involving MRC, the Toronto Lions, the Toronto Rugby Union (TRU) representative team, and a visiting club from Tabard, England will all be played at Centennial Park.

And, in alleviating another longtime MRC complaint, the Town will be marking off the field there before each of those contests.

Van Straten said the MDHS front field is in such brutal shape that ideally, it should

be closed for repairs once the south field is re-opened.

He pointed out that one of his players (Mike Foster) injured knee ligaments after wrenching his leg in one of the field's sand-covered mud sections.

The sand was put over the mud by Markham Parks and Recreation staff, but MRC contends it didn't make conditions any safer.

As well, MRC received a letter from the Ontario Rugby Union's Executive Director that noted complaints from visiting teams, and warned of legal difficulties that could arise if the MDHS field was responsible for player injuries.

But Parks and Recreation Director Brian Wrigglesworth has forseen some of this. In an earlier interview, he agreed the pitch is in terrible shape, and admitted it will have to be closed some time for an extended period of repairs and recuperation.

You should know...
That 72.2% of adults in Markham/Stouffville with a household income of more than \$35,000 read at least one of the last four issues of the Economist/Tribune. (Source: Kubas & Associates study, Spring 1985. Details on request.)

Unionville Soccer

SQUIRTS
KURT SIGNS 2 — SHERIDAN NURSURIES 2. Kurt: Sean Vickers, Andrew Ashton, Sheridan: Jonathan Dunlop, Stephen Rolph. **ONTARIO HYDRANT 2 — COMPUTERLAND 0.** Hydrant: Neil Dickens, Dino Raponi. **MCDONALD'S 1 — CANADIAN PROGRESS 1.** McDonald's: Ashley Forde, Progress: Barrington Gracey. **SEIGER MECHANICAL 6 — PETER SCOTT CONTRACTING 0.** Seiger: Michael Rozak, Alexander Christopoulos, Andrew Meanchoff, Timothy Campbell (3).

GIRLS
MOLLY MAID 3 — KWIK COPY 0. Maid: Nadine Knott (3); Renee Chung shutout.

MOSQUITOS
CHEROKEE MACHINE 5 — CONLIN MOTORS 1. Cherokee: Kevin Miller and Orson Hagleitner (2 each), Graham McGinnis, Conlin: Bruce Ellis. **GRAY ENGINEERING 2 — FRANCA'S PIZZERIA 2.** Gray: Roger Kawaney, Jermaine Davis, Franca's: Pat Pelosi (2). **FRANCA'S 7 — CONLIN 0.** Franca's: Jason Viegas (3), Pat Pelosi (2), James Kim, Darrel Murray. **GRAY 3 — CHEROKEE 0.** Gray: Heiko Roth (2), Naikka Marshall.

PEEWEE
HERSCO CONSTRUCTION 7 — MEAT SHOPPE 0. Harsco: Maurice Tulloch (3), Andrew Fortin and Daniel Ralph (2 each).



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Markham Baseball

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Daycal Publishing 16	—	Markham Cleaners 1
Daycal 6	—	Franca's 5
Safeguard 19	—	Wiseman 16
Cleaners over Wiseman by default	—	Safeguard 9
Daycal 5	—	Cleaners 9
Franca's 8	—	Wiseman 16

Team	W	L	PCT.
Daycal Publishing	9	2	.819
Safeguard R.E.	8	3	.727
Franca's Pizzeria	4	6	.400
Wiseman Electric	3	7	.300
Markham Cleaners	2	8	.200



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Announces with regrets the passing of
Mr. Ian Stronach (registrar).
Please be advised that all pre-delivered
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For further information or if you have not received an
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